

a Faith-Based Initiative that recognizes the great strength of our country lies in the hearts and souls of our loving citizens.

We're making a difference in Washington—I say “we” because I stand up there with you all—that there's a new attitude in our Nation's Capital. We've still got a lot of work to do. But it's an attitude of respect. We need to have debates with the people in mind, not debates trying to say, “My party is better than your party,” or debates that say, “Well, I'm going to tear this person down so I can do better.” That's not what America should be about.

Slowly but surely, we're ushering in a culture of respect in the Nation's Capital. It's important to do so. And as importantly, all of us must work together to usher in a culture of personal responsibility into America, a culture that says each of us are responsible for the decisions we make in life, responsible for loving our children, responsible for helping a neighbor in need.

And I understand my responsibilities, which is to uphold the high honor of the great office of President of the United States.

So I want to thank you all for coming out. I am honored to have you by my side. Let's work hard, and we're going to bring tax relief where it belongs—to the people of America.

God bless, and God bless America. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:45 p.m. at Zephyr Field. In his remarks, he referred to former Major League baseball player Will Clark.

Statement on Senate Action on Legislation to Clean Up Brownfields

April 25, 2001

I am pleased that the Senate has passed legislation to clean up the Nation's brownfields. Environmental reforms must set high standards and get results. This legislation will allow communities to reduce environmental and health risks, capitalize on existing infrastructure and create jobs. I commend the Senate for their bipartisan approach to this important environmental reform.

Proclamation 7429—Loyalty Day, 2001

April 25, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Two hundred and twenty-five years ago, America's founders faced a decisive crossroads. Thomas Jefferson later remembered “the bold and doubtful election we were to make for our country, between submission or the sword.” They chose the sword, and a Nation was born.

Today, we celebrate our loyalty to this country and to the principles for which America stands. Americans demonstrate their dedication by protecting our Nation and its people, promoting our commonly held ideals, and passing these values on to future generations.

Many Americans display their loyalty through careers in public service. Members of our Armed Forces ensure that our Nation remains strong and secure, as well as defend democracy around the world. Domestically, law enforcement officers and the professionals working in our judicial system maintain the peace and uphold the rule of law on which our society depends. Countless other Americans also work to protect us from dangers that threaten our safety and resources.

Americans have not let the dream of “a more perfect Union” fade with the passing of time. Rather, each new generation, along with millions of immigrants, has promoted ideals that lead to the archetype that the founders envisioned. Heroes have risen to fight for freedom, abolition of slavery, universal suffrage, civil rights, and other principles that form the foundation of our Nation. Today, citizens across the country continue this tradition by giving their time and effort to causes greater than themselves. Whether through charitable, civic, or church activities, Americans demonstrate their loyalty by working to improve our country and the lives of its people.

Perhaps the most basic and important means by which we display loyalty to our country is by passing on to our children the